

**Notes of
BRADWELL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held in the Methodist Hall at 7:30 p.m.
on Wednesday 20th APRIL 2011**

Present:-

Parish Council Members

Cllr R Davies, Cllr P Downing (Chair), Cllr C Furness, Cllr V Horstead,
Cllr J Lawson, Cllr A Nash, Cllr J Walker

Steve Lawless

Clerk to Bradwell Parish Council

Cllr Mrs J Goodison

Derbyshire Dales District Council

Mr R Bryan

PDNPA

7 other members of the public were present

The Chairman introduced the meeting and welcomed those present.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr S Eyre, Cllr A Slater, PC I Richardson, DCC Cllr Mrs J Twigg and Mrs J Emsen.

2. Notes of Annual Parish Meeting – 28th April 2010

The notes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. Parish Chairman's Report

Cllr Downing reported that this is the last Parish Meeting to be held under your present Council. A review some of the things the council has been involved during the last four years includes:-

In 2007

- In May we erected a fence around the play equipment on Town Bottom and the Youth Shelter on Beggar's Plot was opened in June.
- In July the Bradda website was formally switched on.
- The Youth Centre opened.
- A number of public meetings were held on the subject of Newburgh's development plans.

In 2008

- The War Memorial was refurbished during the year – a considerable improvement
- Many village organisations received S137 grants from the council.
- The new Police Office was opened on 25th June

In 2009

- The Newburgh planning application took much time. Surgeries were held in the village to give residents a chance to comment, and at a special meeting on 16th February, council voted unanimously to oppose the proposed Newburgh development
- In May we received a request, signed by 17 residents, for allotment space to be made available.
- Bradwell PC became a member of a new group of Parish Councils dedicated to raising awareness of the damage being caused by off-roading in the Peak Park.
- In October CCTV was installed in Netherside by the Police

In 2010

- Council was asked by Bradwell Sports Club to be the Accountable Body for purchase of a MUGA to be located on the Sports Field and this was agreed in March 2011.
- 10 years ago Council decided to create a fund to replace the playing field equipment. The results of this foresight and planning can be seen at Town Bottom right now. A total of approximately £65,000 has been allocated to the equipment replacement project at Town Bottom.

Now we need to think about replacing the equipment at Beggar's Plot. In order to be able to fund projects like the TBP work we had to ensure the precept in past years was sufficient to cover the costs. However, in recognition of the present climate of austerity, council decided to reduce the precept for the coming year by 35%. This means that not only has the stability we had achieved been lost, but also that some difficult decisions will need to be taken by the incoming Council.

Lastly for this evening I want to thank the retiring Councillors for the service they have given to the village over the years, and especially I want to thank your Parish Clerk who has worked hard and tirelessly throughout.

4. Parish Clerk's Report

1. **Parish Council** - Councillors freely give of their time & energy and their Contact Details for Councillors are given in the Residents' Information Sheet.
The number of **formal committee meetings** (PC plus committees) since the last APM totals **43** for all (PC 17, C=5, F=4, PF=8, YC=9) with additional representation on outside bodies / meetings (8 bodies). It did decide to take the steps necessary to qualify for the Power of Well Being PoWB). However, in driving up levels of professionalism in handling council business, the Terms of Reference for all committees were reviewed and updated where necessary, as also were the Financial Regulations.
2. **PC committees**
It was decided to reinstate the Finance committee to improve financial control & to merge the two separate Playing Fields committees and to stand down the Rights of Way committee.
3. **Partners** (for benefit of the village)
As a parish council does not have many legal duties, it best achieves results for the village by working closely with partner bodies.
PDNPA - Number of domestic PAs reviewed was 24 new PAs this year, up from 16 received last year. Clearly, we are still waiting for the amended Newburgh PA to be submitted.
DCC - The major issue this year was the lack of grit when most needed, during the winter snowfalls. The council paid for 8 new grit bins to be installed in the village so that there are now 48 grit bins in and around the village. The council has worked with DCC Highways to facilitate road repairs and also with the DCC RoW to maintain & improve the parish footpaths.
Police - Two priorities have been agreed with them a) to assist in maintaining the Youth centre as a safe & welcoming place and b) monitoring traffic speeds through the village.
4. PC works hard to maintain & improve the quality of life for residents. Where possible we apply for funding for these activities
Playing Fields
 - * annual inspection of trees
 - * annual RoSPA inspection of play areas & equipment & carry out remedial work
 - * contracting of grass cutting, costing c. £4,500 p.a. (obtain c. £1,740 grant)
 - * on-going maintenance, litter picks (3/7), wall repairs, repairs to benches & fencing
 - * quarterly safety inspection of Quarry
 - * weekly inspect play equipment, etc.
 - * maintenance (new swing seats) – TBPF & new swing seat for disabled useThe council would like to thank all those involved in the litter picking group for their work.
5. **Other Items**
Many other activities have been carried out to improve the life of residents.
The council would like to thank the WI for planting out the village tubs twice per year.
6. **Grants**
Each year the council has a fund of money, called the S137 grant, available to give grants to qualifying village organisations.
Last year £5,580 of S137 grants were given to the village organisations.
7. **Plans for the Next Year**
Most plans will be reported under the headings of the various committees
 - On-going maintenance and Improvements to our Playing Fields
 - S137 grants, more applications welcomed
 - Power of Well Being should provide further opportunities to help people in the village.
 - Installation of the Village Information Board & install the Millennium plaque

5. Responsible Financial Officer's Report

Background

This year has been a very active year in financial terms. The significant events have been as follows:-

1. In terms of personnel, the incumbent RFO at this time last year left the council at the end of April. A new RFO was appointed from June but then subsequently left the council at the end of October. I have been the acting RFO since that time.
2. The major events have been the refurbishment project on Town Bottom playing field and the decision to act as 'Accountable Body' for Bradwell Sports Club in its project to install a MUGA on the Sports Field. Both these two initiatives expectedly took considerable time in reaching decision.
3. The other significant decision taken in the past year was the fixing of the 2011/12 precept at £33,580, a decrease of 35%.

Audit Timetable

Bradwell Parish Council prepares accounts according to the Accounts and Audit Regulations Act 2003. The council's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 will be reviewed by the Parish Council's Finance committee, then audited by the Internal Auditor and then to the Parish Council for approval at its May meeting. The Parish Council's Annual Return will then be submitted to the Audit

Commission. After approval has been gained the accounts will become publicly available to all electors.

Financial Performance – General Fund & Sinking Fund

In the year ended 31 March 2011, the Parish Council's General Fund Expenditure is projected as £51,309 and its income as £55,132, a surplus, carried forward to general funds, of £3,823.

The most significant points to note from the operational accounts are as follows:-

- The overall cost of officers' salaries is £1,628 under budget.
- The Caretaking services is £2,870 under budget and caretaking materials is £1,155 under budget.
- The supply of new grit bins and the re-filling of existing grit bins exceeded budget by expenditure c. £1,300.

The net effect of all variances is an under-spend of £5,984.

The Fixed Assets Sinking Fund is designed for the maintenance and refurbishment of the play equipment. A transfer to this fund of £10,000 was made and the balance of this fund at the end of March 2011 was projected to be £63,356. The refurbishment of the Town Bottom playing field is now in progress with expenditure to date of £58,884. A further £900 has already been committed and some further expenditure is planned to complete the project.

Other Designated Funds The Parish Council also holds the following as designated funds.

Carnival Fund

The balance in this fund at March 2010 was £3,800. The net deficit on the annual Carnival event was £1,809. It was agreed to increase the budget for this fund in the coming year to £4,300 to allow for the possibility of a second Saturday event.

Bradwell Community Fund: The balance in this fund at March 2010 was £5,555. During the year it was decided to use this money, together with the £1,239 in the Youth Shelter Fund and £3,206 from General Reserves to make a donation of £10,000 to the MUGA Fund.

Bradwell Youth Club: The balance in this fund at March 2010 was £5,407. The running cost for the Youth Cub during the past year was £912. The projected balance in this fund at March 2011 is now £4,495 and this is held solely to support the continued operation of facilities for the village's young people

Transport Fund: The council is holding a grant of £1,000 to pay for the Village Transport map which is planned to be installed at Town Bottom playing field.

S137 Fund: After deciding during the year to increase the size of this fund to the maximum of £7,300, grants totalling £5,580 were made to six village organisations.

MUGA: In addition, a separate fund is being managed to administer the funds to pay for the MUGA project.

Financial Policy and Investment Strategy

The year to March 2011 has continued with agreed policies and the Parish Council's enters 2011/2012 on a sound financial footing sufficient to meet its day to day liabilities, and with a agreed precept of £33,580.

6. Committee Reports

Carnival committee report - Cllr V Horstead reported as follows:-

On the Friday night of Gala Weekend, when it poured with rain, I suspected that we were in for a repeat of last year's soggy carnival but Carnival day dawned dry.

The standard of the floats was extremely high, and the number and standard of fancy dress participants was as excellent as the previous year. We had a stilt man and the sight of Ben10 in the procession delighted many younger viewers. The free helium balloons, courtesy of Lafarge, soon put a smile on children's faces. The new attractions of the Climbing Wall, inflatable Assault Course, Gyroscope and Gladiator were a big hit with the teenagers. We were well supported by the visiting Royalty, many thanks to Emma Darwent.

St. Barnabas Church and the Teddy Bear Club shared the street collection of almost £700, the Bradwell Sports Association organisation benefitted from the £98 collected manning the Gyroscope and Gladiator stalls and the Bowls Club benefitted by £145 (approx) from running the Car Park. Last year we also had a bar on Beggars Plot for the first time in recent years.

Our final costs, after allowing for income from stalls, donations etc was c £1,800.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make the Carnival the success it was; I would also like to thank Ashley Briggs as overall Manager, Liz Briggs for managing all aspects of the Stalls and for helping with the Queens, Debbie Hobson and her helpers for the programme, Peter Higgs for his

usual professionalism with the PA, Jeanne Mason and Peter Kobayshi for judging and, of course, to all the other councillors (and their other halves!) for their help before, during and after the Carnival.

Playing Fields committee Report - Cllr J Lawson reported as follows:-

We manage the trees, walls, the play equipment etc on both Playing fields. We make recommendations to the Full Parish Council at the next meeting & decisions are then made, by the Full Council on any actions that need to be taken.

This last year, a tree surgeon carried out an annual tree inspection on both playing fields and has carried out any identified remedial work.

We have also had the annual ROSPA safety inspection which reported on the condition & safety of the play equipment in both playing fields. This time, it was found that the play equipment was coming to the end of its time, so the decision was taken by Full Council, to look at replacement equipment that would be more durable.

On looking at the finances, a certain amount of money has been saved from the precept each year & put into a "sinking fund" for this eventuality.

Research was done, (Internet & catalogues) & village children were consulted. Suggested equipment was discussed at Parish Council Meetings, which everyone is welcome to attend. Grants were unsuccessfully applied for. Village residents were consulted on proposals & suggestions were received enthusiastically. The result is as you can see & has been well received by the children.

We still have to finish some of the groundworks & they will be done shortly but we felt it was important, if possible, to open the playground for the Easter holidays.

Youth Club committee report - Cllr J Walker reported as follows:-

The past year had been a year of important changes at the Youth Club. At one time it looked like the Club would be closed, but then DCC provided two staff to keep the Club open on Thursday evenings. However, due to resource problems, DCC then withdrew firstly one member of staff and then later the second member. BPC obtained permission from DCC to run the Club itself and local volunteers then kept the Club running. A Youth Leader (Mrs Emma Day) has now been recruited and the Club is now running well with around 25 members. Mrs Day is running a range of activities and accredited courses, members' behaviour continues to improve. Mrs Day is now planning a programme of events up to the summer break, disco at the end of term and some Youth Club contribution to the Carnival week. Cllr Walker concluded by thanking all the volunteers who had helped over the past year and stated that new volunteers would always be welcome.

Cllr Downing thanked Cllr Walker for all his efforts over the past year.

7. Report by Other Authorities

Derbyshire Dales District Council (Cllr J Goodison)

DDDC Cllr Goodison addressed the meeting to say

a) that the new DDDC ARC leisure centre in Matlock would soon be opening. She hoped that this facility could provide new jobs for Bradwell residents.

b) that a new contract for the collection and disposal of waste was being developed. A large number of applicants was expected and the contract was expected to be awarded in October. She reported that if this contract goes ahead then the monthly Saturday morning skip lorry will be cancelled.

Cllr Goodison then answered a number of questions on these two topics.

PDNPA (Mr R Bryan)

Mr Bryan spoke about the PDNPA and the situation with the Newburgh planning application. He stated that the Newburgh PA has dragged on due to the delay in Newburgh's response to the concerns raised by the Environment Agency. Once the PA is resubmitted, then he expected that all consultees would be re-consulted, both Newburgh & PDNPA would hold separate events to inform residents, and residents should be encouraged to write again with their comments & concerns to PDNPA. Ideally, any comments should related to planning regulations. Mr Bryan then answered the many questions raised by the council and residents.

8. Questions from the Public

Most of the questions from the public had already been addressed to Mr Bryan during his address on the PDNPA & the Newburgh PA. The other matters raised were the state of Bradwell Brook & parking at the bottom of Edge Lane. Cllr Downing stated that these matters would be raised in council.

Mr S Bradwell & Mr I Daniel expressed their thanks to members of the council for all that they had done over the past year.

The Chairmen thanked all for attending and brought the meeting to a close at 9:20 p.m.